

House Resolution

No. 37

Introduced by Assembly Member Correa

September 7, 1999

House Resolution No. 37—Relative to Independence Day
for the Republic of El Salvador.

1 WHEREAS, The Fifteenth of September of 1999 marks
2 the 178th anniversary of national independence for El
3 Salvador and represents a significant day for the people
4 of El Salvador and Salvadoran-Americans in California
5 and across the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, The small colony christened El Salvador or
7 “the savior” by Spanish Conquistador Pedro de Alvarado
8 in 1524 marked the beginning of a long history of struggle
9 and civil conflict for the people of El Salvador; and

10 WHEREAS, For nearly 500 years, the Pipil tribe,
11 descendants of the Mayan Indians, dominated the land;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Following Spanish occupation, the land
14 was distributed to the Spanish elite by the Spanish
15 monarchy; and

16 WHEREAS, For nearly 300 years, the land was worked
17 by forced labor, producing an abundance of export crops
18 for Europeans; and

19 WHEREAS, On the Fifteenth of September of 1821 the
20 people of El Salvador freed themselves from the rule of
21 the Spanish monarchy, ending hundreds of years of
22 struggle; and

1 WHEREAS, For the next 100 years, social and
2 economic upheaval marked daily Salvadoran life; and

3 WHEREAS, The people of California and the United
4 States of America have always supported the efforts of
5 Salvadorans and people across the world to establish
6 democracy; and

7 WHEREAS, There are more than 900,000 Salvadorans
8 residing in Southern California, representing the largest
9 concentration of Salvadorans after San Salvador, the
10 capital city of El Salvador; and

11 WHEREAS, The Salvadoran community brings to
12 Southern California a cultural richness and history that
13 reminds us that democracy is built by people from many
14 nations and diverse cultures who share a dream of
15 freedom, liberty, and happiness; and

16 WHEREAS, The Fifteenth of September of 1821 marks
17 the beginning of that pursuit of self-determination; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,*
20 That it hereby calls on the people of California to join in
21 celebrating Salvadoran Independence Day as a day to
22 honor the valiant spirit of the brave Salvadorans who
23 fought and died for freedom; and be it further

24 *Resolved,* That the Assembly of the State of California
25 hereby recognizes September 15 as Independence Day
26 for the Republic of El Salvador; and be it further

27 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
28 transmit copies of this resolution to the author for
29 appropriate distribution to Salvadoran-Americans
30 throughout California.

